Tardy Pace of Land Reforms in Delhi

2072. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem titled "concern over tardy pace of land reforms", which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 29th January, 1997.

(b) if so, what were the main points discussed in the conference of State Revenue Ministers held on January 26, 1996 and the decisions arrived at thein;

(c) whether the landless persons declared bhumidhars under Sections 74(4) and 85 of Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 have again become landless by selling the land, the sale of which is not permissible under the Act; and

(d) if so, how permission to sell the land was given and whether there is any proposal to enquire into the matter and to book the guilty officials; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The conference of Revenue Ministers held in New Delhi on January 28th, 1997 adopted 38 valuable recommendations which include time bound distribution of ceiling surplus land, Bhoodan land and Government wastelands, involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in land reforms and land revenue administration, restoration of alienated tribal land, updation of land records including taking up cadastral survey and settlement operations in States where the same is overdue and implementation of various other land reforms measures.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Wasteland Development Proposal of Andhra Pradesh

2073. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for wasteland development has been ssubmitted by the Andhra Pradesh Government for West Godavari district;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether such proposal has been cleared by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) No such proposal has been received in the Department of Wastelands Development, Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment for watershed development in West Godawari district of Andhra Pradesh State.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Wasteland Development in Gujarat

2074. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the area of wasteland in Gujarat at present, district-wise;

(b) the total area of land brought under cultivation during the last three years;

(c) whether Government propose to give any incentives to the corporate sector for wasteland development;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Precise information about the extent

of wastelands in the entire Gujarat State is not available. Out of the total 19 districts of Gujarat. National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) Hyderbad has covered wasteland's mapping only for 13 districts. The NRSA Hyderabad had reported the total area of 20.99 Lakh has of wastelands in these 13 districts as per Statement. (*See* below)

(b) Due to poor soil health, Wastelands are generally recommended for production of biomass especially for fuelwood and fodder and such areas are not generally fit for cultivation.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The on-going Central Sector Investment Promotional Scheme for development of Non forast Wastelands (IFS) envisages involving corporaes sector in the development of wastlands. The objective of the scheme is to facilitate/attract/channelise/mobilize ressources from financial institutions, banks, corporate bodies including user industries and other entrepreneur for development of non forest wastelands belonging to Central/State Governments Panchyat, Village Community. Private Farmers etc.

Under the scheme, Central promotional subsidy/grant is provided by the Central Government subject to a maximum of Rs. 25.00 lakhs or 25% of the total cost of the project as approved and firmed up by the financial institutions/banks, whichever is less. In addition, project formulation assistance for the preparation of bankable/viable projects at the rate of 1% of the project cost is permissible; however, in the case of projects promoted by members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, they are eligible for 50% promotional grant/ subsidy subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50,000 per project, in addition to the provision of 1% of the project cost as project formulation assistance.

Stamement

Area of Wasteland in Gujarat

S. No.	Districts	Area (in lakh he.)
1.	Ahmedabad	1.10
2.	Amreli	0.50
3.	Bhavnagar	1.96
4.	Banaskantha	2.74
5.	Gandhinagar	0.03
6.	Jamnagar	2.69
7.	Junagadh	3.14
8.	Kheda	0.53
9.	Mehsana	0.62
10.	Panchamahal	1.36
11.	Rajkot	2.00
12.	Sabarkantha	1.52
13.	Surendra Nagar	2.61
	Total:	20.99

Source: National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad (1995)

Drinking Water Supply Under Bhauna Devi Ram Ganga Water Project in Almora District

2075. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the Bhauna Devi-Ram Ganga Water Project started in 1984-85, to supply drinking water to about 20 villages in Bhikiasain block in Almora district;

(b) whether the work for supplying drinking water to the targeted villages has started; if so, the details of villages where drinking water is reaching; and

(c) what are the details of villages where water was proposed to be supplied but the same has not been made available till date?